

Amendments To The Claims:

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Please amend the claims as shown. Applicants reserve the right to pursue any cancelled claims at a later date.

1.-10. (canceled)

11. (new) A method for providing a network element in a communication system, comprising:

determining if the network element is at least partially loaded with respect to a provided service;

stipulating a maximum load threshold value for the network element;
checking if a service provision request exceeds the stipulated value; and
initiating a network element provisioning when the check indicates that the stipulated value is exceeding.

12. (new) The method according to Claim 11, wherein the step of stipulating the threshold occurs prior to the determining step.

13. (new) The method according to Claim 11, wherein a functional property information and a topological arrangement information of a network element with respect to a provision of service are stored in a network element database.

14. (new) The method according to Claim 13, wherein the functional property information and the topological are assigned to the service.

15. (new) The method according to Claim 14, wherein a provision of service load value for the network element is stored in the network element.

16. (new) The method according to Claim 15, wherein the provision of service load value determines the network element load.

17. (new) The method according to Claim 14, wherein the load threshold value is stored in the network element database.

18. (new) The method according to Claim 14, wherein a service level agreement information relevant to a provision of service is stored in the network element database.

19. (new) The method according to Claim 11, wherein a performance measurement value exceeding the stipulated value determines the loading of the network element.

20. (new) The method according to Claim 11, wherein the network elements provisioning is initiated by a work instruction to a network order selected from the group consisting of network planning, network operating system and combinations thereof.

21. (new) The method according to Claim 11, wherein the network element provisioning initiated by an automatic installation of the respective network element.

22. (new) A communication network control and monitoring system, comprising:
a communication connection management device, comprising:
a network element operating at an at least partial capacity determined with respect to a provision of service,
a maximum capacity threshold stipulated for the network element,
a service provision request that triggers a comparison of the stipulated threshold with the service provision request, an exceeding of the service provision request over the stipulated threshold initiating a provision of the network element;
a network element database for storing information describing a functional property and a topological arrangement of the network element relevant to the provision of service and for assigning the functional property and topological arrangement information to the respective service; and

a monitoring device selected from the group consisting of service quality monitoring device, error monitoring device, and combinations thereof for comparing recorded measured values with the information stored in the network element database for a deviations and for generating a message about a service capacity reduction, thereby providing details of the service concerned in the case of the deviation.

23. (new) A control program for a communication connection management device of a communication network control and monitoring system, the control program adapted for loading into a working memory of a data processing system assigned to the communication management device, comprising:

a first code section for determining if the network element is at least partially at capacity with respect to a provision of service;

a second code section for stipulating a maximum load threshold value for the network element;

a third code section for checking if a service provision request exceeds the stipulated value; and

a fourth code section for initiating a network element provisioning when the check indicates that the stipulated value is exceeding.

24. (new) A control program according to Claim 23, wherein a code section is selected from the group consisting of first code section, second code section, third code section, forth code section, and combinations thereof.